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Attorney Docket No.: CB-12

On 5/22/07

By Angela Loding

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent of: Robert H. Dahla et al.

Application No.: 10/799,908

Filing Date: March 12, 2004

For: ELECTROSURGICAL APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR TISSUE TREATMENT AND

REMOVAL

Examiner: Huh, Benjamin

Art Unit: 3767

Confirmation No.: 8300

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the references that are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue there from.

These citations do not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims.

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This IDS is being filed after the mailing date of the first Official Action on the merits. Accordingly, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180 and any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0359 of ArthroCare Corporation in order to effectuate this filing.

Respectfully submitted Attorney for Applicants,

Brian E. Szymczak

Reg. No. 47,120

Date: 5/21/2007

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:

CUSTOMER NO.: **21394** ArthroCare Corporation (512) 391-3961 FAX (512) 391-3901

Information Disclosure Citation in an Application

Application No.

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Robert H. Dahla et al.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DAT
A.	2,056,377	10/06/39	Wappler	125	303	08/16/33
В.	3,815,604	06/11/74	O'Malley et al.	128	305	06/19/72
C.	3,828,780	08/13/74	Morrison, Jr. et al.	128	275	03/26/73
D.	3,901,242	08/26/75	Storz	128	303	05/30/74
E.	3,920,021	11/18/75	Hiltebrandt	128	303	05/15/74
F.	3,939,839	02/24/76	Curtiss	128	303	06/26/74
G.	3,970,088	07/20/76	Morrison	128	303	04/24/75
Н.	4,040,426	08/09/77	Morrison, Jr.	128	303	01/16/76
I.	4,043,342	08/23/97	Morrison, Jr.	128	303	02/26/76
J.	4,074,718	02/21/78	Morrison, Jr.	128	303	03/17/76
K.	4,092,986	06/06/78	Schneiderman	128	303	06/14/76
L.	4,116,198	09/26/78	Roos	128	303	05/14/76
M.	4,181,131	01/01/80	Ogiu	128	303	02/23/78
N.	4,184,492	01/22/80	Meinke et al.	128	303	05/30/78
Ο.	4,202,337	05/13/80	Hren et al.	128	303	06/14/77
P.	4,228,800	10/21/80	Degler, Jr. et al.	128	303	04/04/78
Q.	4,232,676	11/11/80	Herczog	128	303	11/16/78
R.	4,248,231	02/03/81	Herczog et al.	128	303	11/16/78
S.	4,326,529	04/27/82	Doss et al.	128	303	12/05/79
T.	4,381,007	04/26/83	Doss	128	303	04/30/81
U.	4,474,179	10/02/84	Koch	606	40	05/13/82
V.	4,476,862	10/16/84	Pao	128	303	09/30/82
W.	4,532,924	08/06/85	Auth et al.	128	303	04/30/82
X.	4,548,207	10/22/85	Reimels	128	303	11/17/82
Y.	4,567,890	02/04/86	Ohta et al.	128	303	08/07/84
Z.	4,567,890	02/04/86	Ohta et al.	128	303	08/07/84
AA.	4,590,934	05/27/86	Malis et al.	128	303	05/18/83
BB.	4,593,691	06/10/86	Lindstrom et al.	128	303	07/13/83

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DAT
A.	4,660,571	04/28/87	Hess et al.	128	784	07/18/85
В.	4,674,499	06/23/87	Pao	128	303	01/10/85
C.	4,682,596	07/28/87	Bales et al.	128	303	05/22/84
D.	4,706,667	11/17/87	Roos	128	303	07/28/86
E.	4,727,874	03/01/88	Bowers et al.	128	303	09/10/84
F.	4,765,331	08/23/88	Petruzzi et al.	128	303	02/10/87
G.	4,785,823	11/22/88	Eggers et al.	128	692	07/21/87
H.	4,805,616	02/21/89	Pao	128	303	11/20/86
l.	4,823,791	04/25/89	D'Amelio et al.	123	303	05/08/87
J.	4,907,589	03/13/90	Cosman	606	34	04/29/88
K.	4,920,978	05/01/90	Colvin	128	784	08/31/88
L.	4,931,047	06/05/90	Broadwin et al.	604	22	09/30/87
M.	4,936,301	06/26/90	Rexroth et al.	606	45	06/23/87
N.	4,943,290	07/24/90	Rexroth et al.	606	45	04/27/89
Ο.	4,966,597	10/30/90	Cosman	606	50	11/04/88
P.	4,967,765	11/06/90	Turner et al.	128	785	07/28/88
Q.	4,976,711	12/11/90	Parins et al.	606	48	04/13/89
R.	4,979,948	12/25/90	Geddes et al.	606	33	04/13/89
S.	4,998,933	03/12/91	Eggers et al.	606	41	06/10/88
T.	5,007,908	04/16/91	Rydell	606	47	09/29/89
U.	5,009,656	04/23/91	Reimels	606	48	08/17/89
V.	5,035,696	07/30/91	Rydell	606	47	02/02/90
W.	5,047,026	09/10/91	Rydell	606	48	07/02/90
X.	5,047,027	09/10/91	Rydell	606	48	04/20/90
Y.	5,078,717	01/07/92	Parins et al.	606	48	09/10/90
Z.	5,080,660	01/14/92	Buelna	606	45	05/11/90
AA.	5,084,044	01/28/92	Quint	606	27	07/14/89
BB.	5,085,659	02/04/92	Rydell	606	47	11/21/90

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DAT
A.	5,088,997	02/18/92	Delahuerga et al.	606	42	03/15/90
В.	5,099,840	03/31/92	Goble	128	422	01/23/89
C.	5,102,410	04/7/92	Dressel	606	15	10/09/90
D.	5,108,391	04/28/92	Flachenecker et al.	606	38	05/05/89
E.	5,112,330	05/12/92	Nishigaki et al.	606	46	05/23/89
F.	5,125,928	06/30/92	Parins et al.	606	48	02/19/91
G.	5,167,659	12/01/92	Ohtomo et al.	606	40	05/13/91
H.	5,171,311	12/15/92	Rydell et al.	606	48	09/23/91
I.	5,178,620	01/12/93	Eggers et al.	606	41	02/22/91
J.	5,190,517	03/02/93	Zieve et al.	604	22	06/06/91
K.	5,192,280	03/09/93	Parins	606	48	11/25/91
L.	5,195,959	03/23/93	Smith	604	34	05/31/91
M.	5,197,466	03/30/93	Marchosky et al.	128	399	01/07/92
N.	5,197,963	03/30/93	Parins	606	46	12/02/91
Ο.	5,207,675	05/04/93	Canady	606	40	07/15/91
P.	5,217,457	06/08/93	Delahuerga et al.	606	42	05/27/9
Q.	5,217,459	06/08/93	Kamerling	606	48	08/277/9
R.	5,267,994	12/07/93	Gentelia et al.	606	15	02/10/92
S.	5,267,997	12/07/93	Farin et al.	606	38	01/15/92
T.	5,273,524	12/28/93	Fox et al.	604	21	10/09/9
U.	5,277,201	01/11/94	Stern	607	98	05/01/92
V.	5,281,216	01/25/94	Klicek	606	42	03/31/92
W.	5,290,282	03/01/94	Casscells	606	29	06/26/92
X.	5,300,069	04/05/94	Hunsberger et al.	606	37	08/12/92
Y.	5,306,238	04/26/94	Fleenor	606	42	09/13/9
Z.	5,312,400	05/17/94	Bales et al.	606	41	10/09/92
AA.	5,314,406	05/24/94	Arias et al.	604	21	10/09/92
BB.	5,324,254	06/28/94	Phillips	604	21	01/13/93

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	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
A.	5,330,470	07/19/94	Hagen	606	42	07/02/92
В.	5,334,140	08/02/94	Philips	604	35	01/12/93
C.	5,342,357	08/30/94	Nardella	606	40	11/13/92
D.	5,366,443	11/22/94	Eggers et al.	604	114	10/09/92
E.	5,370,675	12/06/94	Edwards et al.	607	101	02/02/93
F.	5,375,588	12/27/94	Yoon	128	4	08/17/92
G.	5,380,277	01/10/95	Phillips	604	33	11/02/93
H.	5,383,876	01/24/95	Nardella	606	49	03/22/94
I.	5,383,917	01/24/95	Desai et al.	607	702	07/05/91
J.	5,395,312	03/07/95	Desai	604	22	05/10/93
K.	5,401,272	03/28/95	Perkins	606	15	02/16/94
L.	5,423,882	06/13/95	Jackman et al.	607	122	07/06/94
M.	5,441,499	08/15/95	Fritzsch	606	45	07/13/94
N.	5,451,224	09/19/95	Goble et al.	606	48	02/25/93
Ο.	5,454,809	10/03/95	Janssen	606	41	04/19/94
P.	5,419,767	05/30/95	Eggers et al.	604	114	08/24/93
Q.	5,423,810	06/13/95	Goble et al.	606	40	02/25/93
R.	5,436,566	07/25/95	Thompson et al.	324	713	06/01/93
S.	5,438,302	08/01/95	Goble	331	167	07/11/94
T.	5,496,312	03/05/96	Klicek	606	34	10/07/93
U.	5,496,314	03/05/96	Eggers	606	41	10/09/92
V.	5,496,317	03/05/96	Goble et al.	606	48	05/03/94
W.	5,514,130	05/07/96	Baker	606	41	10/11/94
X.	5,556,397	09/17/96	Long et al.	606	48	10/26/94
Y.	5,569,242	10/29/96	Lax et al.	606	42	02/16/95
Z.	5,571,100	11/05/96	Goble et al.	606	41	10/28/94
AA.	5,584,872	12/17/96	LaFontaine et al.	607	117	03/11/94
BB.	5,609,151	03/11/97	Mulier et al.	128	642	09/18/94

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	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DAT
A.	5,647,869	07/15/97	Goble et al.	606	37	06/28/95
B.	5,662,680	09/02/97	Desai	606	210	10/28/94
C.	5,676,693	10/14/97	LaFontaine et al.	607	116	06/14/94
D.	5,681,282	10/28/97	Eggers et al.	604	114	04/11/95
E.	5,697,281	12/16/97	Eggers et al.	604	114	06/07/95
F.	5,697,536	12/16/97	Eggers et al.	604	114	11/18/96
G.	5,697,909	12/16/97	Eggers et al.	604	114	11/24/94
H.	5,700,262	12/23/97	Acosta et al.	606	48	10/16/95
I.	5,725,524	03/10/98	Mulier et al.	606	41	01/03/96
J.	5,766,153	06/16/98	Eggers et al.	604	114	12/05/96
K.	5,807,395	09/15/98	Mulier et al.	606	41	04/22/97
L.	5,810,764	09/22/98	Eggers et al.	604	23	07/18/96
M.	5,810,809	09/22/98	Rydell	606	49	01/13/97
N.	5,843,019	12/01/98	Eggers et al.	604	22	07/18/96
Ο.	5,860,975	01/19/99	Goble et al	606	45	12/15/95
P.	5,885,277	03/23/99	Korth	606	35	02/27/97
Q.	5,888,198	03/30/99	Eggers et al.	604	114	12/05/96
R.	5,891,095	03/30/99	Eggers et al.	604	114	12/05/96
S.	5,897,553	04/27/99	Mulier	606	41	11/02/95
T.	5,902,272	05/11/99	Eggers et al.	604	114	07/16/96
U.	5,944,715	08/31/99	Goble et al.	606	41	11/25/96
V.	5,954,716	09/21/99	Sharkey et al.	606	32	02/19/98
W.	6,004,319	12/21/99	Goble et al.	606	48	08/26/96
X.	6,013,076	01/11/00	Goble et al.	606	41	10/25/96
Y.	6,015,406	01/18/00	Goble et al.	606	41	08/21/96
Z.	6,024,733	02/15/00	Eggers et al.	604	500	11/22/95
AA.	6,027,501	02/22/00	Goble et al.	606	41	10/21/96
BB.	6,039,734	03/21/00	Goble et al.	606	41	07/27/98

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	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DAT
A.	6,056,746	05/02/00	Goble et al.	606	48	03/27/98
В.	6,063,079	05/16/00	Hovda et al.	606	41	04/02/98
C.	6,066,134	05/23/00	Eggers et al.	606	32	10/23/98
D.	6,068,628	05/30/00	Fanton et al.	606	41	08/20/96
E.	6,074,386	06/13/00	Goble et al.	606	34	08/06/97
F.	6,090,106	07/18/00	Goble et al.	606	41	03/26/98
G.	6,093,186	07/25/00	Goble et al.	606	34	12/18/97
Н.	6,102,046	08/15/00	Weinstein et al.	128	898	06/02/98
I.	6,109,268	08/29/00	Thapliyal et al.	128	898	12/15/97
J.	6,126,682	10/03/00	Sharkey et al.	607	96	09/15/98
K.	6,142,992	11/07/00	Cheng et al.	606	34	04/10/98
L.	6,149,620	11/21/00	Baker et al.	604	22	02/12/99
M.	6,159,194	12/12/00	Eggers et al.	604	500	10/02/97
N.	6,159,208	12/12/00	Hovda et al.	606	41	03/15/99
Ο.	6,168,593	01/02/01	Sharkey et al.	606	34	02/12/98
P.	6,179,824	01/30/01	Eggers et al.	604	500	06/13/97
Q.	6,179,836	01/30/01	Eggers et al.	606	45	10/28/98
R.	6,183,469	02/06/01	Thapliyal et al.	606	41	01/02/98
S.	6,190,381	02/20/01	Olsen et al.	606	32	01/21/98
T.	6,203,542	03/20/01	Ellsberry et al.	606	41	04/21/99
U.	6,210,402	04/03/01	Olsen et al.	606	32	11/25/97
V.	6,224,592	05/01/01	Eggers et al.	606	32	07/27/98
W.	6,228,081	05/08/01	Goble	606	34	06/30/99
X.	6,238,391	05/29/01	Olsen et al.	606	41	06/11/99
Y.	6,254,600	07/03/01	Willink et al.	606	41	06/11/99
Z.	6,293,942	09/25/01	Goble et al.	606	38	05/02/96
AA.	6,296,636	10/02/01	Cheng et al.	606	32	07/21/99
BB.	6,296,638	10/02/01	Davison et al.	606	41	11/20/98

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	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
Α.	6,306,134	10/23/01	Goble et al.	606	42	10/16/98
B.	6,312,408	11/06/01	Eggers et al.	604	114	12/05/96
C.	6,322,549	11/27/01	Eggers et al.	604	500	01/06/00
D.	6,355,032	03/12/02	Hovda et al.	606	32	02/27/98
E.	6,363,937	04/02/02	Hovda et al.	128	898	05/06/98
F.	6,379,351	04/30/02	Thapliyal et al.	606	41	02/18/00
G.	6,391,025	05/21/02	Weinstein et al.	606	41	03/13/98
Н.	6,416,507	07/09/02	Eggers et al.	606	32	01/18/00
I.	6,416,508	07/09/02	Eggers et al.	606	32	02/15/00
J.	6,432,103	08/13/02	Ellsberry et al.	606	41	06/26/00
K.	6,468,274	10/22/02	Alleyne et al.	606	32	10/11/00
L.	6,468,275	10/22/02	Wampler et al.	606	48	06/23/00
M.	6,482,201	11/19/02	Olsen et al.	606	41	07/27/00
N.	6,517,498	02/11/03	Burbank et al.	600	564	07/20/00
Ο.	6,530,922	03/11/03	Cosman	606	34	01/27/00
P.	6,589,237	07/08/03	Woloszko et al.	606	41	01/19/01
Q.	6,602,248	08/05/03	Sharps et al.	606	32	09/28/00
R.	6,620,156	09/16/03	Garito et al.	606	50	09/20/02
S.	6,632,193	10/14/03	Davison et al.	604	22	01/05/00
T.	6,632,220	10/14/03	Eggers et al.	606	41	11/12/99
U.	6,749,604	06/15/04	Eggers et al.	606	41	03/30/00
V.	6,749,608	06/15/04	Garito et al.	606	45	080/5/02
W.	6,770,071	8/3/2004	Woloszko et al.	606	41	2/9/2001
Χ.	6,780,178	08/24/04	Palanker et al.	600	41	05/03/02
Y.	6,780,180	08/24/04	Goble et al.	606	41	03/08/00
Z.	6,802,842	10/12/04	Ellman et al.	606	45	01/02/03
AA.	6,837,887	1/4/2005	Woloszko et al.	606	41	1/25/2002
BB.	6,837,888	1/4/2005	Ciarrocca et al.	606	41	2/25/2002

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DAT			
A.	6,920,883	07/26/05	Bessette et al.	128	898	11/08/02			
B.	6,929,640	08/16/05	Underwood et al.	606	32	02/24/00			
C.	6,949,096	09/27/05	Davison et al.	606	41	01/21/03			
D.	6,960,204	11/01/05	Eggers et al.	606	32	07/16/03			
E.	6,974,453	12/13/05	Woloszko et al.	606	41	04/20/01			
F.	6,991,631	01/31/06	Woloszko et al.	606	41	02/13/03			
G.	7,004,941	02/28/06	Tvinnereim et al.	606	41	11/07/02			
H.	7,070,596	07/04/06	Woloszko et al.	606	41	10/03/00			
I.	7,090,672	08/15/06	Underwood et al.	606	41	07/02/03			
J.	7,094,215	08/22/06	Davison et al.	604	22	03/28/03			
K.	7,104,986	09/12/06	Hovda et al.	606	32	05/12/03			
L.	7,131,969	11/07/06	Hovda et al.	606	45	05/01/00			
M.	7,169,143	01/30/07	Eggers et al.	606	32	10/20/05			
N.	RE33,925	05/12/92	Bales et al.	606	48	12/08/88			
Ο.	7,186,234	3/6/07	Dahla et al.	604	22	2/5/02			
P.	2002/0095151	7/18/02	Dahla et al.	606	41	2/5/02			
Q.	2003/0088245	05/08/03	Woloszko et al.	606	041	11/04/02			
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S.	2003/0028189	02/06/02	Woloszko et al.	604	045	06/27/02			
T.	2003/0158545	08/21/03	Hovda et al.	606	032	02/25/03			
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V.	2003/0208194	11/06/03	Hovda et al.	606	041	09/26/01			
W.	2003/0208196	11/06/03	Stone	606	041	05/03/02			
X.	2003/0212395	11/13/03	Woloszko et al.	606	032	03/05/03			
Y.	2003/0212396	11/13/03	Eggers et al.	606	041	03/14/03			
Z.	2003/0212396	11/13/03	Eggers	606	041	03/13/03			
AA.	2003/0216726	11/20/03	Eggers et al.	604	041	03/20/03			
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L.	2005/0131402	06/16/05	Ciarrocca et al.	600	450	01/03/05
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

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C.	2313949	01/07/77	FR	A61N	3/02	X	
D.	2 308 979	07/16/97	GB	A61B	17/36		
E.	2 308 980	07/16/97	GB	A61B	17/36	X	
F.	2 308 981	07/16/97	GB	A61B	17/36	X	
G.	2 327 350	01/27/99	GB	A61B	17/39	Х	
Н.	2 327 351	01/27/99	GB	A61B	17/39	Х	
l.	2 327 352	01/27/99	GB	A61B	17/39	X	
J.	57-117843	07/22/82	JP	A61B	17/39	Х	
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M.	90/03152	04/05/90	WO	A61B	17/39	Х	
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Ο.	92/21278	12/10/92	WO	A61B	5/04	Х	
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R.	94/04220	03/03/94	WO	A61N	A61N	Х	
S.	94/08654	04/28/94	WO	A61M	37/00	Х	
T.	95/34259	12/21/95	WO	A61F	5/48	Х	
U.	96/00042	01/04/96	WO	A61B	17/39	X	
V.	97/00646	01/09/97	WO	A61B	17/39	X	
W.	97/00647	01/09/97	WO	A61B	17/39	X	
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C.	97/48345	12/24/97	WO	A61B	17/39	X	
D.	97/48346	12/24/97	WO	A61B	17/39	X	
E.	98/07468	02/26/98	WO	A61N	1/40	X	
F.	98/27879	07/02/98	WO	A61B	17/36	X	
G.	98/27880	07/02/98	WO	A61B	17/39	X	
H.	99/51155	10/14/99	WO	A61B	17/36	X	
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J.	01/87154	5/18/01	WO	A61B	5/05	X	
K.	05/125287	12/29/05	WO	A61B	18/00	X	
L.	02/36028	5/10/02	WO	A61B	18/12	X	
M.	97/18768	5/29/1997	WO	A61B	17/39	X	
N.	99/20213	4/29/1999	WO	A/61F	7/12	X	
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P.	00/000038	2/24/00	wo	A/61F	7/12	X	
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NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)	DATE
A.	Wyeth, "Electrosurgical Unit" pp. 1181-1202	
В.	Buchelt, et al. "Excimer Laser Ablation of Fibrocartilage: An In Vitro and In Vivo Study", Lasers in Surgery and Medicine, Vol. 11, pgs. 271-279	1991
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E.	O'Neill et al., "Percutaneous Plasma Discectomy Stimulates Repair in Injured Porcine Intervertebral Discs", Dept. of Orthopaedic Surgery, Dept. of Radiology University of California at San Francisco, CA, 3 pgs	No date
F.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US99/14685 (Atty docket no. CB-01PC), 1 pg	Mailed 10/21/9
G.	PCT Notification of International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US99/14685 (Atty docket no. CB-01PC), 4 pgs	Mailed 2/20/01
H.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US98/22323 (Atty docket no. CB-02PC), 1 pg	Mailed 3/3/99
I.	PCT Notification of International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US98/22323 (Atty docket no. CB-02PC), 5 pgs	Mailed 11/28/0
J.	European Search Report for EP 98953859 (Atty docket no. CB-02EP), 2 pgs	July 2, 2001
K.	Supplementary European Search Report for EP 98953859 (Atty docket no. CB-02EP), 3 pgs	10/18/01
L.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US99/18289 (Atty docket no. CB-07PC), 1 pg	Mailed 12/7/99
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V.	PCT Notification of International Search Report and Written Opinion for PCT/US06/26321 (Atty docket no. CB-17PC), 8pgs	Mailed 4/25/07

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